

# What's New in the MPDC

MAY 27, 2002

## DISCOVERY OF CHANDRA LEVY'S REMAINS RENEWS ATTENTION ON HIGH-PROFILE CASE

\*\*\*\*\*

The discovery this past week of the skeletal remains of Chandra Levy in a remote section of Rock Creek Park has renewed widespread attention in the high-profile case from last summer. The skeletal remains were found at approximately 9:30 am, on Wednesday, May 22, by a resident walking his dog and looking for turtles in very dense woods inside Rock Creek Park, off the 4600 block of Broad Branch Road, NW. Positive identification of the remains as those of Ms. Levy was made later that day by the DC Medical Examiner's Office through comparison of dental records. As of Friday afternoon, the exact manner and cause of death were still under investigation by the ME's Office. The MPDC has classified the case as a "death investigation" for now, pending the ME's determination, but the Department has initiated a thorough examination of the scene where the remains, along with clothing remnants, were found. Police investigators are being assisted by forensic and archaeological experts from the Smithsonian Institution and the National Park Service. As of Friday afternoon, Broad Branch Road between Beach Drive and Davenport remained closed to traffic, and officials have cordoned off a wide area of the park from pedestrians. Ms. Levy was last seen April 30, 2001, in the neighborhood of the apartment she rented at 1260 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW; she was reported missing by her parents approximately one week later. For more information on the Chandra Levy death investigation, visit:

*In a statement, Mayor Williams offered condolences to the Levy family. "As a community, the District of Columbia shares the pain and loss of Chandra Levy. She has been and will remain forever in our prayers," the Mayor said. Read the complete statement at:*

**[dc.gov/mayor/news/  
statement.asp?id=106](http://dc.gov/mayor/news/statement.asp?id=106)**

*The MPDC is currently investigating more than 330 open missing persons cases dating back to the 1980s. Approximately 230 of those cases involve adults. Some of the more recent cases are highlighted on the MPDC Web site; tips or clues on any of these cases can be phoned in to the MPDC's Command Information Center at 202-727-9099:*

**[mpdc.dc.gov/serv/solvers/  
missing\\_persons/  
missingpersons.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/serv/solvers/missing_persons/missingpersons.shtm)**

the park from pedestrians. Ms. Levy was last seen April 30, 2001, in the neighborhood of the apartment she rented at 1260 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW; she was reported missing by her parents approximately one week later. For more information on the Chandra Levy death investigation, visit:

**[mpdc.dc.gov/serv/solvers/missing\\_persons/levy.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/serv/solvers/missing_persons/levy.shtm)**

## MPDC WELCOME MORE RESERVE OFFICERS

\*\*\*\*\*

The MPDC welcomes 14 new Reserve Officers who recently completed their training at the Maurice T. Turner Jr., Institute of Police Science. These new 5<sup>th</sup> Class Reserve Officers went through 20 hours of training covering the basics of the MPDC organization, community policing, customer service and police operations. The Reserve Officers commit to volunteering a minimum of four hours per week to the MPDC. As part of their initial on-the-job training, the new Reserve Officers, during their first four tours of duty, will assist district station personnel with various day-to-day administrative tasks. After that, they may get involved in a variety of community policing, traffic control and customer service duties. As 5<sup>th</sup> Class Reserve Officers, the 14 new volunteers are now eligible to accumulate sufficient hours and undergo additional training to become higher-ranking Reserve Officers with additional duties and responsibilities. The 14 new Reserve Officers are assigned to the police districts where they live or work. For more information about the Reserve Corps program, including a downloadable application form, go to:

**[mpdc.dc.gov/serv/programs/services\\_PRC.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/serv/programs/services_PRC.shtm)**

## WARM WEATHER BRINGS OUT OPEN-AIR MINI STATIONS

\*\*\*\*\*

The warm weather in DC means more than flowers and summer tourists: it also means the return of the MPDC's Open-Air MiniStations. Open-Air MiniStations are highly-visible picnic-table-and-chair sets that serve as outdoor, portable police facilities. The MiniStations are temporarily placed in different communities for varying periods of time so the MPDC can deter criminal activity and better serve residents and visitors. The MiniStations serve two main purposes: (1) to let drug dealers, gang members, and other criminals know that illegal activity will not be tolerated in the community, and (2) to help law-abiding residents with information and assistance for building a safe and healthy neighborhood. Residents can acquire materials and talk with police officers at the MiniStation locations. For more information about Open-Air MiniStations, go to:

*To request the temporary placement of an Open-Air MiniStation in your community, contact your local police district or the Office of the Executive Assistant Chief, at 202-727-4363. To find out what police district and police service area you live in, complete the form at:*

**[mpdc.dc.gov/info/districts/districts.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/info/districts/districts.shtm)**

**[mpdc.dc.gov/serv/programs/ministationfaq.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/serv/programs/ministationfaq.shtm)**

## SOBRIETY CHECKPOINTS TO BE PART OF ENHANCED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT THIS SUMMER

\*\*\*\*\*

With the summer travel season heating up, the MPDC will be using a variety of enforcement and education initiatives to try to keep DC's streets and highways safe. Beginning this weekend, regular sobriety checkpoints will be held throughout the District over the summer. Using federal grant money to pay for police overtime and a state-of-the-art Chemical Analysis Testing van, the MPDC is cracking down on drunken drivers. DC

*Throughout the summer, the MPDC will continue its Click It or Ticket seat belt safety campaign, as well as the Smooth Operator program targeting aggressive drivers. More information about both of these programs is available on the Traffic Safety page at:*

**[mpdc.dc.gov/info/traffic/traffic.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/info/traffic/traffic.shtm)**

*The MPDC Web site now has up-to-date statistics on traffic fatalities in DC, as a reminder to DC residents of the dangers of aggressive driving. After increasing sharply in 2001, traffic fatalities are up again this year. Get the stats at:*

**[mpdc.dc.gov/info/traffic/trstats.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/info/traffic/trstats.shtm)**

has tough laws on drinking and driving, including the 0.08 Blood Alcohol Content standard for Driving While Intoxicated. Alcohol was a factor in more than half a dozen traffic fatalities in DC in 2001, and a major contributor to a fatal traffic crash this past week at the corner of North Capitol Street and Michigan Avenue. Learn about the laws and penalties on drinking and driving in DC at:

**[mpdc.dc.gov/info/traffic/duihome.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/info/traffic/duihome.shtm)**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

\*\*\*\*\*

- Chief Ramsey participates in a special candlelight vigil for the survivors of homicide in DC, Wednesday evening, May 29, at Shiloh Baptist Church, 1500 9<sup>th</sup> Street, NW. The event is sponsored by the DC-based William Wendt Center for Loss and Healing.
- MPDC Recruit Class 2001-4 will have graduation ceremonies next Friday, May 31, at 2 pm, at the Voice of America Auditorium in Southwest DC.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Information, ideas or comments about this service?*

*E-mail Kevin Morison, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at [kevin.morison@dc.gov](mailto:kevin.morison@dc.gov).*

*Would you like to have this information emailed to you? Just go to our web site and register with [crimereports.com](http://crimereports.com).*

**METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT WEB PAGE**  
**MPDC.DC.GOV**